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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

28120

7590

08/18/2009

ROPES & GRAY LLP PATENT DOCKETING 39/41 ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE BOSTON, MA 02110-2624 EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TRAN N

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3626

DATE MAILED: 08/18/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.

10/655,804 09/04/2003 Jonathan Helitzer HSDO-P01-002 7117

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TECHNOLOGY RISK MITIGATION INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH INSURANCE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/18/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

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III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

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							(Signature)
							(Date)
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTO	RNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/655,804	09/04/2003	•	Jonathan Helitzer		Н	SDO-P01-002	7117
TITLE OF INVENTIO	N: SYSTEM FOR TH	E ACQUISITION OF	TECHNOLOGY RISK M	MITIGATION INF	ORM.	ATION ASSOCIATE	D WITH
APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE	E FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0		\$1810	11/18/2009
EXAM	EXAMINER		CLASS-SUBCLASS				
NGUYEN	, TRAN N	3626	705-014000				
 Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. 			or agents OR, alternative (2) the name of a single registered attorney or a 2 registered patent attorney.	1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2			
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Please check the appropr	iate assignee category or	categories (will not be pa	rinted on the patent): \Box	Individual 🖵 Co	orporati	on or other private gro	up entity 🔲 Government
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5. Change in Entity Sta	tus (from status indicate s SMALL ENTITY statu	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	b. Applicant is no long	ver claiming SMAI	LEN	FITY status See 37 CF	FR 1 27(g)(2)
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PTOL-85 (Rev. 08/07) Approved for use through 08/31/2010.

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28120 75	590 08/18/2009		EXAMINER		
ROPES & GRAY LLP			NGUYEN	, TRAN N	
PATENT DOCKETING 39/41 ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE			ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1099 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1099 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/655,804	HELITZER ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tran Nauvan	3636	
	Tran Nguyen	3626	
The MAILING DATE of this communication apperature All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED or other appropriate comr IGHTS. This application is	in this application. If not included nunication will be mailed in due course	
1. This communication is responsive to the communication fi	led 07/20/2009.		
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, 109-121</u> .			
 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unerstanding and All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 	, , ,) or (f).	
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have	e been received in Applica	ion No	
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority do	cuments have been receiv	ed in this national stage application fro	om the
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		le a reply complying with the requirem	ients
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give			E OF
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus	st be submitted.		
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	son's Patent Drawing Revi	ew (PTO-948) attached	
1) 🗌 hereto or 2) 🔲 to Paper No./Mail Date			
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner' Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment	or in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t			of
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			ne
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 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) D Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 	<u> </u>	Informal Patent Application	
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 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>02/17/2009</u> 	/. ∐ Examiner	's Amendment/Comment	
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. 🛛 Examiner	's Statement of Reasons for Allowance	Э
	9. 🗌 Other	<u></u> ·	
	/C. Luke Gill	•	
	Supervisory F	atent Examiner, Art Unit 3626	

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

This communication is in response to the communication filed 07/20/2009.

Pending claim(s): 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, 109-121. Cancelled claim(s): 1-54, 56, 61-64,

67-69, 71-108. New claim(s): 109-121. Amended claim(s): 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70.

Response to Amendment

As per the Office Action mailed 02/20/2009:

The objection to the amendment filed 12/03/2008 under 35 USC 132(a), the objection to the specification under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and the rejection of claims 54-55, 57-60, 65-66, 70 are hereby withdrawn in view of Applicant's cancellation of claim 54 and the interview conducted on 04/30/2009.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 02/17/2009 is entered and considered by Examiner.

Statutory Subject Matter - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

As per claim 109, based on Supreme Court precedent and recent Federal Circuit decisions, the Office's guidance to examiners is that a § 101 process must (1) be tied to a machine or (2) transform underlying subject matter (such as an article or materials) to a different state or thing. *In re Bilski* et al, 88 USPQ 2d 1385 CAFC (2008); *Diamond v. Diehr*, 450 U.S. 175, 184 (1981); *Parker v. Flook*, 437 U.S. 584, 588 n.9 (1978); *Gottschalk v. Benson*, 409 U.S. 63, 70 (1972); *Cochrane v. Deener*, 94 U.S. 780,787-88 (1876).

An example of a method claim that would not qualify as a statutory process would be a claim that recited purely mental steps. Thus, to qualify as a statutory process, the claim should positively recite the particular machine to which it is tied, for example by identifying the apparatus that accomplishes the method steps, or positively recite the subject matter that is being transformed, for example by identifying the material that is being changed to a different state.

In particular, although the "identifying" step in claim 109 does not require the particular of a statutory machine, this step is a nonessential step.

All remaining steps in claim 109 require the particulars of a statutory machine.

Therefore, claim 109 passes the "machine" prong of the "machine or transformation" test, and is found to be directed towards statutory subject matter.

All claims dependent thereon, namely claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, are also found to be directed towards statutory subject matter for at least the same rationale above, and incorporated herein.

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As per claims 110-121, these claims are also found to be directed towards statutory subject matter for at least the same rationale as applied to claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, 109 above, and incorporated herein.

Written Description - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

MPEP 2163(I)(B) reads as follows:

"While there is no *in haec verba* requirement, **newly added claim limitations**must be supported in the specification through express, implicit, or
inherent disclosure".

MPEP 2163.02 reads as follows:

"An applicant shows possession of the claimed invention by **describing the claimed invention with all of its limitations** using such descriptive means as words, structures, figures, diagrams, and formulas that fully set forth the claimed invention. *Lockwood v. American Airlines*, Inc., 107 F.3d 1565, 1572, 41 USPQ2d 1961, 1966 (Fed. Cir. 1997)".

Claim 109 recites:

- (a) identifying a plurality of SICS;
- (b) storing the SICs in a computer.

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The specification as originally filed on 09/04/2003 discloses (page 26-27):

The process 400 selects and stores at least one SIC associated with the business for which the property is used. A plurality of SIC records corresponding to a plurality of SIC are stored in a database resident in a database means 250 and database means 270. Each of the SIC records are linked to underwriting guidelines (unshown) established and filed by

the insurance carrier. These criteria include guidelines related to minimum premiums, hazard rating, underwriting authority, and referral criteria. The process 400 displays, on display 203, a plurality of candidate risk modifiers associated with one or more technologies that mitigate the risk of loss or hazards associated with the insurable

business property and the retrieves the SIC record for documenting and storing a selected

risk modifier code and related underwriting criteria associated with the business property and associated policy. The process 400 develops the quotation using a detailed description of the insured's operation, the minimum premium information, the selected hazard code, the selected risk modifier code 405, and primary insurance limits.

According to the specification, a plurality of SIC-specific underwriting guidelines is stored in the computer.

Claim 109 further recites:

- (c) entering a request for a policy;
- (d) entering the SIC of the insured property.

The specification discloses (page 26):

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In the next step 404, utilizing the input device 208, the user enters quotation information pertaining to the insured party for whom casualty insurance dependent upon the technology is to be underwritten. Such information typically includes, the name, address, telephone number of the insured party, the date the request for the quotation was received, a description of the insured's operation and the standard industrial codes ("SIC"), which are associated with the insured's business.

According to the specification, the user enters a policy request and a SIC for the insured property.

Claim 109 further recites:

- (e) collecting sensor data;
- (f) using the sensor data to underwrite the SIC-associated property to determine the insurable risk of the property.

The specification discloses (page 28):

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In step 408, the process 400 retrieves from a first database 242 resident in database means 250 and 270, public bureau rating information. The present invention maintains a database, which contains a rating means for storing information relating to the potentially insurable risk, mitigated by a technology in the second database 246. In step 410, the rating associated with the insurance carrier, which will underwrite the casualty insurance being quoted, is compared against a predetermined minimum technology-rating threshold established by the carrier issuing the insurance quotation. The process 460 takes into account the risk modification in step 411 where a second risk modifier code 241 factors into the decision the effects of the mitigation of risk due to the incorporation of specific technology. Notably the risk modification code 241 may be determined by the actual use of the technology as assessed by the acquisition of sensor data 102(a) through 102(n). If, as a result of this comparison, the system 400 determines that the rating of the insurance carrier is below the predetermined threshold, the system proceeds to step 412, where the insurance underwriter may decline to issue a quotation or refer the submission to a managing authority for further consideration. If the user declines to issue the quotation in step 412, then the process 400 generates a declination letter, indicating that no quote will be submitted for the casualty policy dependent upon technology; otherwise, the system 400 proceeds to step 414 where the underwriter is typically required to document reasons for writing coverage that does not meet minimum underwriting criteria.

According to the specification, sensor data is collected and is used by the computer to determine if the property meets a particular system threshold. From this comparison, a decision to issue or deny the policy is made.

Claim 109 further recites:

(g) calculating the premium based on the SIC and the sensor data.

The specification discloses (page 27):

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In step 405 a user retrieves a risk modifier code 240 developed from the analysis and determination of the mitigating effect a technology on the insured risks. The risk modifier code 240 is an actuarial function of the mitigation of risk due to the incorporation of specific technology. The risk modification value of the code 240 may be further modified by the actual use of the technology as assessed by the acquisition of sensor data 102(a) through 102(n).

According to the specification discloses using a modifier to adjust the premium calculation based on the technology.

The specification further discloses (page 29):

The loss or hazard mitigation technology and hazard rating instructions contain factors that are considered when associating a risk to a particular SIC. Based on risk mitigation technology and hazard rating information, the user selects one or more ratings for the quotation in step 418. The selected risk mitigation technology and hazard rating(s) are then stored in 419 in the system 200 databases, means 250, 270 as part of the computer file associated with the particular quotation.

According to the specification, the modifier is calculated based on the SIC of the property.

As such, the specification as originally filed provides full written description support for claim 109.

Support for all claims dependent thereon, namely claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, may be found on at least page 25-28 of the specification.

As per claim 110, this claim is fully supported by the specification as originally filed for at least the same rationale as applied to claim 109 above, and incorporated herein.

Support for all claims dependent thereon, namely claims 111-121, may be found on at least page 25-28 of the specification.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, 109-121 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claim 109, the primary reason for allowance is the inclusion of the following limitations not found in the closest available prior art:

associating each SIC with a SIC-specific underwriting guideline in the computer;

collecting sensor data related to the property and storing the collected sensor data in the computer;

underwriting, using the computer, the property by applying the SIC-specific underwriting guideline associated with the selected SIC to the property and the stored sensor data to determine if the property is insurable or not insurable; and

calculating, by the computer, a premium for an insurance policy for the property based at least in part on the collected sensor data, wherein an effect of the collected sensor data on the calculating of the premium is determined based on the selected SIC.

The closest available prior art are as follows:

McMillan (5797134) teaches that conventional methods for determining costs of motor vehicle insurance involve gathering relevant historical data of the applicant by referencing the applicant's public motor vehicle driving record (column 1 line 13-18). McMillan further teaches using vehicle sensors to collect data concerning the operation of the vehicle to prospectively set the insurance rate (Abstract, column 5 line 36-45).

McMillan also teaches using sensors to detect the number of miles driven (column 5 line 19) and the location of night and work parking (column 4 line 50-54).

Nevertheless, McMillan does not teach applying SIC-specific underwriting guidelines. Instead, McMillan only teaches auto insurance, and at best provides a business surcharge (column 2).

Rejda (Principles of Insurance, mailed 09/03/2008) teaches: calculating the premium based on:

- (a) the territory where the vehicle is principally used and garaged (page 229 column 2 paragraph 3);
 - (b) the driving record (page 231 column 1 paragraph 1-3);
- (c) the basis of how the car is driven, comprising pleasure with a one-way mileage to work under three miles, drive to work with a per diem mileage of three to fifteen miles or more, business use, and farm use that is not driven to work or school (page 230 column 1 paragraph 4 Use of the Automobile).

Nevertheless, Rejda does not teach applying SIC-specific underwriting guidelines. Instead, McMillan only teaches auto insurance, and at best provides a business surcharge (column 2).

A search of foreign patents was also conducted; however, no relevant references were found.

All claims dependent thereon, namely claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, are also allowed for at least the same rationale as applied to parent claim 109 above, and incorporated herein.

As per claims 110-121, these claims are also allowed for at least the same rationale as applied to claims 55, 57-60, 65-66, 70, 109 above, and incorporated herein.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tran (Ken) N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-

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270-1310. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Eastern.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, C. Luke Gilligan can be reached on 571-272-6770. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/T. N./ Examiner, Art Unit 3626 08/11/2009

/C. Luke Gilligan/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3626